

MINUTES
WORK SESSION
WESTERVILLE CITY COUNCIL
January 31, 2006, 7:00 p.m., City Council Chambers

Council met in Work Session on January 31, 2006 with Council Members, Anne Gonzales, Craig Treneff, Damon Wetterauer, Jr., Kathy Cocuzzi, William Highfield, Diane Fosselman, City Manager G. David Lindimore and Staff and Director of Law Bruce E. Bailey present. Michael Heyeck was excused.

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS

Mr. Lindimore and Karl Craven, Planning and Development Director, presented a 20 year Capital Improvement Program to Council. This program included projects in the 2006-2010 Financial Plan, unfunded additions to the current five year plan, future capital improvements project after 2011, facility projects, storm water and sanitary projects, short and long term water projects and additional projects with possible TIF or CRA funding. Mr. Craven stated the construction timetable is very fluid and staff has attempted to link the project delivery to the potential needs based on future traffic, age of existing infrastructure and opportunities for outside funding sources.

Chairman Wetterauer asked if the city was responsible for all bridge maintenance or is there some contribution from the county engineer. Mr. Craven stated Franklin County is responsible for all culverts over 48 inches in diameter and all bridges except for the new Cleveland Avenue Bridge adjacent to Heritage Park. Delaware County does not have the same agreement with the city so the city is responsible for the bridges on Polaris Parkway and County Line Road West along with all the large culverts.

Mrs. Gonzales asked why the annual sidewalk replacement program stops after 2010. Mr. Craven stated this program was initially a five year program but has been stretched out to a seven year program and will become a minor repair project after 2010.

Mr. Treneff asked about the unfunded additions to the five year plan for the annual street rehabilitation program and what is that in addition to the annual street rehabilitation the city has already anticipated in the five year plan. Mr. Craven stated the projects are based on the utility needs, available funding and what can be delayed for another couple of years before money is spent on the project. Mr. Treneff asked about the assumptions taken into account for inflation. Mr. Craven stated it was 3% each year from 2006 to 2015 and then flat beyond 2015.

Mrs. Cocuzzi asked if the additional projects with possible TIF or CRA funding represented the estimated cost with funding. Mr. Craven stated those amounts are the project cost.

Mayor Fosselman asked how staff prioritized or dated the projects. Mr. Craven explained the process staff used to determine the timetable of projects.

Chairman Wetterauer asked if the truck route was changed from Route 3 to Cleveland Avenue if any of the proposed projects would change. Mr. Craven stated the only change would be the amount of gas tax received by the city.

Mrs. Gonzales stated she sees many transportation projects in this plan and if the need was greater for these projects over other department projects wants.

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Mr. Lindimore discussed the other departmental projects not included in this program and stated this program only deals with the capital side and not the operating issues.

Chairman Wetterauer stated Council will need to prioritize these projects.

Mrs. Cocuzzi asked for projected maintenance dates for all city facilities.

Mr. Highfield discussed the budget deficit in the near future and the importance of looking at future expenditures. Council will need to be creative and citizens will need to tell Council how to proceed with the budget deficit.

Mayor Fosselman challenged staff to continue developing the capital improvement program and start giving Council realistic suggestions/recommendation on how to move forward to address this and maintain the quality of life in Westerville today. Mayor Fosselman stated she is not interested in stalling projects as the costs will increase if the project is delayed.

Chairman Wetterauer stated staff is to be commended for preparing this information. Council will need more input and suggestions as to costs, timeframe and what is realistic.

Mr. Treneff stated he is looking for needs versus wants with all the projects listed.

Chairman Wetterauer stated Council needs to be educated and citizens will need to be informed of the situation.

Mr. Lindimore stated staff will need more time to develop a more comprehensive report and will set a tentative schedule by next Tuesday.

Mrs. Gonzales stated Council needs to be clear on projects the city cannot afford.

Chairman Wetterauer asked Council to review the program to look for any omissions. These omissions⁷ should be a need and not a want.

The Work Session adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Mary J. Johnston, MMC
Clerk of Council

Damon E. Wetterauer, Jr.
Chair of Council